REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The present amendment is supplemental to the Amendment filed on August 19, 2009. Reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 77, 121-122, 143-145, 152, 154-179 are in the case. Claims 78-120, 123-142, 146-151 and 153 are cancelled without prejudice.

I. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

The claims have been further amended to focus on aspects of specific furostanol and spirostanol saponins carrying a specific trisaccharide group at the 3-position. Compounds with this particular substitution pattern are demonstrated in the examples to be highly active against the enzyme Core 2 GlcNAc-T.

New independent claims 157 and 168 focus on the case where these compounds are from plant extracts.

Cancer has been removed without prejudice from the list of conditions to be treated.

Basis for the preferred substitution pattern of the compounds of the formula (VII) is to be found at paragraphs [0141] to [0142]. In addition:

R_{19} is reduced to methyl, which is preferred for this substituent [0107];

R_{20} is based on the preferred form of this substituent at [0108];

R_{22} is based on the preferred form of this substituent at [0109];

R_{23} is based on the preferred form of this substituent at [0112];

Basis for the preferred substitution pattern of the compounds of the formula (Xi) is to be found at [0228] to [0239] additionally:

R_{25}, R_{31} and R_{34} are based on preferred forms at [0205], [0208] and [0211];

R_{19} is reduced to methyl, which is preferred for this substituent on group (IX) [0204];

R_{26} is based on the preferred form of this substituent at [0206].

Claims 78 to 120, 123-142 146 to 151 and claim 153 have been cancelled without prejudice.

New claims 154 and 155 are based on the preferred substitution pattern at [0144] to [0151] and [0240] to [0247], respectively.

New claim 156 recites 3 specific preferred compounds of the formula (IV).

New independent claim 157 claims a method of treatment of the conditions listed in claim 1 comprising a comprising administering to a patient in need thereof, a plant extract, the extract being essentially free of hypoglycemic activity and comprising an effective amount of a compound of the formula (IV). The claim is based on the text at [0029, last sentence] which ascribes the hypoglycemic activity of fenugreek extracts to the compound 4-hydroxyisoleucine, and not to the compounds of the formula (IV).

Dependent claims 158 to 165 are based on original claims 121, 122, 143 to 145 and new claims 154 to 156.

New claim 166 claims the method of claim 157 in which the plant extract is a component of a pharmaceutical composition which additionally comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or excipient. The claim is based on the text at [0259] and on the text at [0358] to [0363] which describe various formulations comprising various diluents and other excipients.

Claim 167 claims an isolated compound of formula XII, which is compound 3.

New independent claim 168 claims a method of treatment of the conditions listed in claim 1, comprising a comprising administering to a patient in need thereof, a plant extract, the extract being essentially free of 4-hydroxyisoleucine and comprising an effective amount of a compound of the formula (IV). The claim is based on the text at [0029], last sentence which ascribes the hypoglycemic activity of fenugreek extracts to the compound 4-hydroxyisoleucine, and not to the compounds of the formula (IV).

New claims 169 to 177 which are dependent on new claim 168 are based on original claims 121, 122, 143 to 145 and new claims 154 to 156, and on new claim 166.

New claims 178 and 179 further define the plant extract as being an extract of fenugreek and specifically of fenugreek seeds as described generally through out the text. No new matter is entered.

II. THE 35 U.S.C. §102(b) REJECTION

Referring to the anticipation rejection of claims 77-81, 85-94, 131-143, 146-151 and 153 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Mimaki *et al.* Phytochemistry (1996), Vol. 42, pages 1065-1070 (Mimaki), the Mimaki reference reports that certain steroidal saponins appear to inhibit T.P.A. stimulated ^{23}P incorporation into phospholipids. This is alleged to anticipate use of the compounds listed in Mimaki to treat cancer *per se*. The claims as currently amended do not encompass treatment of cancer. The rejection over Mimaki has accordingly been rendered moot. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

III. THE OBVIOUSNESS REJECTION

With reference to the obviousness rejection of claims 82-84, 90-1 30, 144-1 45 and 152 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Mimaki in view of Matsuda *et al.*, Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett. (2003), Vol. 13, pages 1101-1106 (Matsuda) and Friedman *et al.*, Food and Chemical Toxicology (2003), Vol. 41, pages 61-71 (Friedman), it is believed that cancellation of claims to treatment of cancer obviates the rejection over Mimaki and Friedman. With regard to Matsuda, Applicants have demonstrated in the previous response that one of ordinary skill would not have arrived at the claimed invention based on Matsuda. The claims presented herewith are directed to a narrow set of compounds, none of which is disclosed or suggested by Matsuda. Withdrawal of the obviousness rejection is accordingly respectfully requested.

IV. THE INTERVIEW

The present case and two related cases (USSN 11/481,255 filed July 6, 2006 and 11/481,256, filed July 6, 2006) were discussed with the Examiner (Mr. Lewis) on November 12, 2009. The Examiner requested that the scope of the invention as claimed in the three cases be clarified. It is believed that the amendments presented herewith and in the two related cases advance the applications. If any further questions arise, it is requested that the undersigned be telephoned at 703-816-4005.

Favorable action is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: /Leonard C. Mitchard/
Leonard C. Mitchard
Reg. No. 29,009

LCM:lff
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100